

REMARKS

Claim 8

Applicant's invention includes a camera attached to a mount assembly that is mounted to a vehicle. The novel feature specified by claim 8 is a ball-plunger for self-locking the mount assembly to the camera. The function of the self-locking ball-plunger is to securely attach the camera to the mount assembly as explained in the specification..

Figure 7 shows the installation action required to place said mobile pan and tilt camera (20) on said mounting assembly (22). Said mobile pan and tilt camera (20) is brought to said mounting assembly (22) and is offset by the pitch of said slotted teeth (38) such that they miss said slotted teeth (71) and said mounting plate (68) moves into cavity in said mobile pan and tilt camera (20). Said mobile pan and tilt camera (20) is then moved relative to said mounting assembly (22) to remove offset of said slotted teeth (38 & 71). This last sliding action engages said electrical male signal connector (40) with said electrical female signal connector (65) and said ball-pin plunger (36) drops into said locking hole (69). From operator action, said security fastener (35) engages said threaded flange (66) to provide secondary mechanical engagement of said mobile pan and tilt camera (20) and said mounting assembly as well as security from vandals. Said mobile pan and tilt camera (20) is now ready for operation.

Specification, pp 17-18.

The Examiner cites a nylon ball plunger used in the Bigley, Jr. et al. (Pat. No. 5,816,128) invention as being the equivalent of applicant's ball-plunger. It is not. The Bigley nylon ball-plunger is used as a holding means (NOT a locking device) in a device for severing flexible polymeric tube, pipe, or tubular extrudate. Bigley describes the function performed by the nylon ball-plunger as follows:

For safety and to hold the blade holder (13) in various positions, there are machined into the blade attachment part of the blade holder (13b) three depressions (17) which are at angles of 0 degrees, 45 degrees, and 90 degrees to the position of the blade holder (13) when the blade holder handle (13a) is parallel to the base plate (1). These depressions (17) are machined at a distance equivalent to the distance between holes 6 and 10. The nylon ball plunger (7) will then engage one of the depressions (17) so as to hold the blade (14) at one of three angles (not shown), but allow it easily to be released for severing purposes.

Bigley, Jr. et al., col. 6, lines 57-67.

The Bigley patent is non-analogous art. A person skilled in the art who wishes to find technology appropriate for "locking" one device to another would not look to devices "for severing flexible polymeric tube, pipe, or tubular extrudate, such as flexible light pipe."

The Bigley nylon ball plunger does not and could not perform the locking function specified for the ball-plunger of applicant's claim 8. Applicant's ball-plunger of claim 8 is not an obvious feature in view of Bigley, Jr. et al.

Claim 15

The novel feature of applicant's invention specified in claim 15 is a bimetal heat sink for camera power supply temperature control. This clever device is described in the specification as follows:

Inside said camera housing (32) is a camera cavity (88) where the temperature and humidity should be controlled to gain the best performance from a camera (150) and the optics. Figure 8 is a cross-section drawing noted as A-A in figure 3d. A temperature control system is comprised of a voltage regulator (81), a bi-metal heatsink (80), and said camera housing (32). Said voltage regulator (81) provides stable electrical power to said camera (150) and from this, generates heat as a byproduct. Said bimetal heatsink (80) provides a thermal path for heat from regulator to pass to the airspace of said camera cavity (88). From cold conditions in said camera cavity (88), said bimetal heatsink (80) is a distance from said camera housing (32). As said voltage regulator (81) and said camera cavity (88) rise in temperature, said bimetal heatsink (80) will begin to flex. The temperature set-point for said camera cavity (88) is determined by the size, weight, and type of metals combined to make said bimetal heatsink (80) where, at the optimal temperature set-point for said camera (150) and optics operation, said bimetal heatsink (80) flex's to engage said camera housing (32). Said camera housing (32) is aluminum or other thermally conductive material will provide a much greater capacity for conducting heat from said voltage regulator (81) and said camera cavity (88). When the temperature in said camera cavity (88) and voltage regulator (81) begin to cool, said bimetal heatsink (80) relaxes and loses direct contact with said camera housing (32) enabling said bimetal heatsink (80) to increase in temperature and add heat to said camera cavity (88).

Specification, pp 18-19.

The Harvey invention (Pat. No. 5,017,954) is a camera shutter with a thermal actuator. The actuator is operated by a user to initiate an exposure cycle which results in the taking of a picture. The operation is described in Harvey as follows:

Depression of shutter aperture 20 has caused circuit 29 to discharge capacitor 31 through the bimetallic element 18 which immediately bends to the position shown in FIG. 4, swinging closing blade 15 counterclockwise to a blocking position over exposure aperture 13. This terminates the exposure.

When exposure actuator 20 is released, spring 22 moves the actuator upwardly, thereby moving heat sink 28 into contact. This movement of the actuator moves heat sink 28

upwardly into contact with the underside of bimetallic element 18, thus draining heat from the element 18 and at the same time urging element 18 toward its FIG. 1 position.

The Harvey patent is non-analogous art. A person skilled in the art who wishes to find technology appropriate for controlling the temperature in an enclosure would not look to "electrically-operated shutters for photographic apparatus."

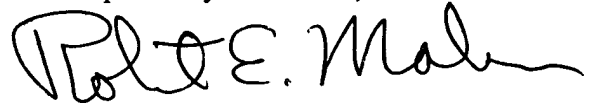
A bimetallic element which dumps heat into a heat sink during a camera exposure cycle is not the bimetal heat sink that claim 15 specifies. The functions performed by Harvey's bimetallic element of blocking and unblocking the light path by the bending and unbending of a bimetallic element is different from the functions performed by applicant's bimetal heat sink of utilizing heat from the camera power supply in controlling the temperature of the camera cavity.

The claim-15 bimetal heat sink is NOT obvious in view of Harvey's bimetallic element which is not a heat sink and does not control temperature.

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Based on the arguments presented above, applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 8 and 15 be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. E. Malm", with a stylized, cursive script.

Date: 12/16/09
Telephone: (310) 573-1781

Robert E. Malm, Reg. No. 34,662
16624 Pequeno Place
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272